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Department of State

EXCISE

252

TELEGRAM

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 HA-05
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P R 0620232 APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5220
INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 2589

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PHUM, AR
SUBJECT: REPORTING DISAPPEARANCES

1. TODAY B1,EC
APRIL 6 OF THE DISAPPEARANCE OF TWO PERSONS --
AND POSSIBLY OTHERS--OUTSIDE A CHURCH IN BUENOS AIRES
PROVINCE ON MARCH 26.

2. DR. RAUL EDUARDO PETROUCH AND HIS FIANCEE B1,EC
MISS ELISA MORENO WERE REPORTED
BY PETROUCH'S FATHER TO HAVE BEEN ARRESTED LEAVING
A 6 PM EASTER SUNDAY MASS AT THE CATHEDRAL OF
SAN JUSTO, JUST OUTSIDE THE FEDERAL CAPITAL.
ACCORDING TO THE ELDER PETROUCH, HIS SON AND
SON'S FIANCEE WERE ARRESTED BY PERSONS PRESENTING
THEMSELVES AS MEMBERS OF THE STATE SECURITY SERVICES.
PETROUCH ALSO REPORTED HIS BELIEF B1,EC
THAT OTHER PERSONS HAD BEEN ARRESTED AT THE SAME
TIME, BUT HE WAS UNABLE TO PROVIDE NAMES OR ANY FURTHER
DETAILS.

3. MASS WHICH DR. PETROUCH AND MISS MORENO HAD ATTENDED
WAS FOR A PARAGUAYAN REFUGEE WOMAN, CIRITA BENITEZ, WHO
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WAS REPORTEDLY ARRESTED HERE IN MARCH OF 1976 AND WHO

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [illegible] DATE 4/20/82
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

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SUBSEQUENTLY IS BELIEVED IN REFUGEE CIRCLES TO HAVE BEEN KILLED DURING A TRANSFER FROM ONE PRISON TO ANOTHER. PETROUCH WAS PRACTICING AS A PHYSICIAN IN A WORKING CLASS DISTRICT AT THE TIME OF HIS ABDUCTION.

4. [redacted] NOT CERTAIN WHAT OTHER EFFORTS MR. PETROUCH MAY HAVE MADE TO LOCATE HIS SON. STORY HAS NOT APPEARED IN BUENOS AIRES HERALD WHICH ALONE AMONG BUENOS AIRES NEWSPAPERS WILL PRESENT THIS KIND OF NEWS WHEN REPORTED BY A FAMILY. CASTRO

B/EC

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